

Submission to Senate Inquiry into Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Repeal Bill) 2008

This is a most important Bill- to restore the 1996 Northern Territory voluntary euthanasia law which was overturned by Federal Parliament in 1997; an act that denied the democratic rights of Northern Territorians and which had the potential for far reaching implications throughout Australia.

I write as a person with an incurable degenerative disease. I am 51 years of age and truly believe that when my pain and suffering becomes so unbearable and my quality of life –as I see it – so intolerable and miserable ,that a qualified doctor in a regulated way should be legally permitted to assist me to end my life. I should have the right to say “enough is enough!”

I ask simply that you understand and have compassion for the rights of Australian citizens who face terminal illness - who voluntarily, and with mental capacity , would ask you for the lawful right to choose the time and means of their death in a regulated way.

I ask that the Bill restore the 1996 voluntary euthanasia law.

Maree GILL

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